

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A magneto optic read head, comprising:
a magneto optic transducer with a multilayer structure with at least one thin magnetic layer with a magneto optic effect;
at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material and having a predetermined wear coefficient greater than a wear coefficient of the multilayer structure; ~~and~~
a layer with a predetermined magnetic permeability configured to close a magnetic circuit; and
a reflecting layer located between the at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material and the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability,
wherein the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability comprises a first plurality of sublayers made of a magnetic material with the predetermined magnetic permeability and a second plurality of sublayers made of a material having a wear coefficient substantially equivalent to said wear coefficient of the at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material, and
sublayers of said first plurality of sublayers alternate with sublayers of said second plurality of sublayers.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first plurality of sublayers are made of a material similar to that of the at least one thin magnetic layer with the magneto optic effect.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the second plurality of sublayers are made of a material similar to that of the at least one layer of the nonmagnetic material.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 19, wherein the at least one thin magnetic layer with the magnetooptic effect is made of a material based on iron, silicon and aluminum ($\text{Fe}_x\text{Si}_y\text{Al}_z$) or based on iron, tantalum and nitrogen ($\text{Fe}_x\text{Ta}_y\text{N}_z$).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 20, wherein the at least one layer of the nonmagnetic material is made of a material based on silicon and nitrogen (Si_xN_y).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein a total thickness of the first plurality of sublayers is less than a diameter of particles produced by a wear of materials of the read head or of a medium to be read.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 23, wherein the total thickness of the first plurality of sublayers is between 10 and 50 nm.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 24, wherein a total thickness of the second plurality of sublayers is between 10 and 30 nm.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): ~~The read head as claimed in claim 25, comprising a~~
magnetooptic read head, comprising:

a magnetooptic transducer with a multilayer structure with at least one thin magnetic layer with a magnetooptic effect;

at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material and having a predetermined wear coefficient greater than a wear coefficient of the multilayer structure; and

a layer with a predetermined magnetic permeability configured to close a magnetic circuit,

wherein the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability comprises a first plurality of sublayers made of a magnetic material with the predetermined magnetic permeability and a second plurality of sublayers made of a material having a wear coefficient substantially equivalent to said wear coefficient of the at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material, and

about 30 sublayers of said first plurality of sublayers that alternate with about 30 sublayers of said second plurality of sublayers.

Claim 27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim ~~[[27]]~~ 18, wherein the reflecting layer is made of gold or of copper.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a layer of an optical coupling material placed against the at least one thin magnetic layer with a the magnetooptic effect.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 29, wherein the optical coupling layer is made of silicon.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability is coated with a protective layer on its a face that faces away from the at least one layer of the nonmagnetic material.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 31, wherein the protective layer is made of Si_xN_y .

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a backplate adhesively bonded to the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability or to a protective layer that coats a face of the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 33, wherein the at least one thin magnetic layer with the magnetooptic effect is supported by a substrate and a thickness of the backplate is substantially equal to a thickness of the substrate.